

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 177689 TOSEC 080078

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ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-05 SSO-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 CCO-00 /023 R

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DRAFTED BY: EUR/EE:TPHDUNLOP:LG

APPROVED BY: EUR:JGLOWENSTEIN

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P 282320Z JUL 75 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SECRETARY PRIORITY

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ATTN: MR ANDREWS

FOLLOWING REPEATS PARIS 19325 ACTION DEPT INFO BUCHAREST
LONDON MOSCOW NATO JULY 25TH

QUOTE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE PARIS 19325

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, RO, FR

SUBJECT: CEAUSESCU INTERVIEW IN LE MONDE

REF: PARIS 18488

1. ON EVE OF FRENCH PREMIER CHIRAC'S DEPARTURE FOR
FIVE-DAY VISIT IN ROMANIA, LE MONDE JULY 24TH CARRIED
LENGTHY FRONT-PAGE INTERVIEW WITH CEAUSESCU. INTERVIEW
FOLLOWED STANDARD THEMES AND CONTAINED NO SURPRISES.

2. PREDICTABLY, CEAUSESCU PLACED HIS MAIN EMPHASIS ON
CSCE, WHICH HAS CONSTRUCTIVE IMPLICATIONS FOR DETENTE
AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION. CSCE NEVERTHELESS
REPRESENTS ONLY A BEGINNING, SINCE NUMBER OF MAJOR
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POLITICAL AND MILITARY PROBLEMS REMAIN TO BE SOLVED,

I.E. DISSOLUTION OF BLOCS, DISMANTLING OF FOREIGN BASES, WITHDRAWAL OF FORCES FROM FOREIGN TERRITORIES, AS WELL AS CONVENTIONAL AND NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT. IN RESPONSE TO A QUESTION ON CSCE FOLLOW-UP, CEAUSESCU SAID IT WAS NOT AS INSTITUTIONALIZED AS ROMANIA HAD HOPED, OR AS EUROPE REQUIRED. CSCE FOLLOW-UP NEVERTHELESS REPRESENTS USEFUL BASIS FOR DEVELOPING FUTURE ACTIVITIES.

3. ASKED WHETHER ROMANIA NOW CONSIDERS ITSELF A NON-ALIGNED COUNTRY, CEAUSESCU SAID IT FAVORED POLICIES LEADING TO SIMULTANEOUS SUPPRESSION OF NATO AND THE WARSAW PACT AND, AS A DEVELOPING COUNTRY, WAS INTERESTED IN INTENSIFYING RELATIONS WITH OTHER DEVELOPING NON-ALIGNED AND THIRD WORLD COUNTRIES. ROMANIA WAS, THEREFORE, INTERESTED IN ATTENDING THE NEXT NON-ALIGNED CONFERENCE AS AN OBSERVER. IT HAD ASKED TO BE PRESENT AT COLOMBO, AND EXPECTED THIS ISSUE TO BE DISCUSSED AT LIMA.

4. REST OF INTERVIEW WAS DEVOTED TO RATE OF ROMANIAN ECONOMIC GROWTH, WHICH CEAUSESCU DESCRIBED AS SATISFACTORY; TO RISE IN WORLD PRICES, WHICH HE SAID ROMANIA WAS ABLE TO ADJUST TO; TO COMECON, WHICH HE SAID CONTRIBUTED TO ROMANIA'S DEVELOPMENT, SINCE THE PRINCIPLE OF INTEGRATION WAS QUALIFIED BY RESPECT FOR NATIONAL SOVEREIGNTY; AND TO COMECON - COMMON MARKET RELATIONS, REGARDING WHICH THERE WAS NEED TO DISCOVER NEW METHODS OF COOPERATION.

5. CEAUSESCU CONCLUDED BY WELCOMING CHIRAC'S VISIT AND STRESSED THAT CURRENT CLIMATE FAVORED MORE INTENSIVE ECONOMIC AND COMMERCIAL FRENCH-ROMANIAN RELATIONS.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TOSEC, COLLECTIVE SECURITY, PRESS CONFERENCES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 28 JUL 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE177689
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: EUR/EE:TPHDUNLOP:LG
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750260-0410
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750715/aaaaandp.tel
Line Count: 94
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 PARIS 18488
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 16 MAY 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <16 MAY 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <03 OCT 2003 by CunninFX>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CEAUSESCU INTERVIEW IN LE MONDE
TAGS: PFOR, RO, FR, CSCE, LE MONDE, (CEAUSESCU, NICOLAE)
To: SECRETARY
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006